



Billing Code: 3410-30-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food and Nutrition Service

Child Nutrition Programs; Income Eligibility Guidelines

AGENCY: Food and Nutrition Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice

SUMMARY: This Notice announces the Department's annual adjustments to the Income Eligibility Guidelines to be used in determining eligibility for free and reduced price meals and free milk for the period from July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014. These guidelines are used by schools, institutions, and facilities participating in the National School Lunch Program (and Commodity School Program), School Breakfast Program, Special Milk Program for Children, Child and Adult Care Food Program and Summer Food Service Program. The annual adjustments are required by section 9 of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act. The guidelines are intended to direct benefits to those children most in need and are revised annually to account for changes in the Consumer Price Index.

DATES: Effective Date: July 1, 2013.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: William Wagoner, Supervisory Program Analyst, School Programs Section, Child Nutrition Division, Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), USDA, Alexandria, Virginia, 22302, or by phone at (703) 305-2590.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

This action is not a rule as defined by the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601-612) and thus is exempt from the provisions of that Act.

In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3507), no recordkeeping or reporting requirements have been included that are subject to approval from the Office of Management and Budget.

This notice has been determined to be not significant and was not reviewed by the Office of Management and Budget in conformance with Executive Order 12866.

The affected programs are listed in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance under No. 10.553, No. 10.555, No. 10.556, No. 10.558 and No. 10.559 and are subject to the provisions of Executive Order 12372, which requires intergovernmental consultation with State and local officials. (See 7 CFR Part 3015, Subpart V, and the final rule related notice published at 48 FR 29114, June 24, 1983.)

Background

Pursuant to sections 9(b)(1) and 17(c)(4) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1758(b)(1) and 42 U.S.C. 1766(c)(4)), and sections 3(a)(6) and 4(e)(1)(A) of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1772(a)(6) and 1773(e)(1)(A)), the Department annually issues the Income Eligibility Guidelines for free and reduced price meals for the National School Lunch Program (7 CFR Part 210), the Commodity School Program (7 CFR Part 210), School Breakfast Program (7 CFR Part 220), Summer Food Service Program (7 CFR Part 225) and Child and Adult Care Food Program (7 CFR Part 226) and the guidelines for free milk in the Special Milk Program for Children (7 CFR Part

215). These eligibility guidelines are based on the Federal income poverty guidelines and are stated by household size. The guidelines are used to determine eligibility for free and reduced price meals and free milk in accordance with applicable program rules.

Definition of Income

In accordance with the Department's policy as provided in the Food and Nutrition Service publication Eligibility Manual for School Meals, "income," as the term is used in this Notice, means income before any deductions such as income taxes, Social Security taxes, insurance premiums, charitable contributions and bonds. It includes the following: (1) Monetary compensation for services, including wages, salary, commissions or fees; (2) net income from nonfarm self-employment; (3) net income from farm self-employment; (4) Social Security; (5) dividends or interest on savings or bonds or income from estates or trusts; (6) net rental income; (7) public assistance or welfare payments; (8) unemployment compensation; (9) government civilian employee or military retirement, or pensions or veterans payments; (10) private pensions or annuities; (11) alimony or child support payments; (12) regular contributions from persons not living in the household; (13) net royalties; and (14) other cash income. Other cash income would include cash amounts received or withdrawn from any source including savings, investments, trust accounts and other resources that would be available to pay the price of a child's meal.

"Income," as the term is used in this Notice, does not include any income or benefits received under any Federal programs that are excluded from consideration as income by any statutory prohibition. Furthermore, the value of meals or milk to children shall not be considered as income to their households for other benefit programs in accordance with

the prohibitions in section 12(e) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act and section 11(b) of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1760(e) and 1780(b)).

The Income Eligibility Guidelines

The following are the Income Eligibility Guidelines to be effective from July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014. The Department's guidelines for free meals and milk and reduced price meals were obtained by multiplying the year 2013 Federal income poverty guidelines by 1.30 and 1.85, respectively, and by rounding the result upward to the next whole dollar. This Notice displays only the annual Federal poverty guidelines issued by the Department of Health and Human Services because the monthly and weekly Federal poverty guidelines are not used to determine the Income Eligibility Guidelines. The chart details the free and reduced price eligibility criteria for monthly income, income received twice monthly (24 payments per year), income received every two weeks (26 payments per year) and weekly income.

Income calculations are made based on the following formulas: Monthly income is calculated by dividing the annual income by 12; twice monthly income is computed by dividing annual income by 24; income received every two weeks is calculated by dividing annual income by 26; and weekly income is computed by dividing annual income by 52. All numbers are rounded upward to the next whole dollar. The numbers reflected in this notice for a family of four in the 48 contiguous states, the District of Columbia, Guam and the territories represent an increase of 2.2% over last year's level for a family of the same size.

Effective from July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014													
HOUSEHOLD SIZE	FEDERAL POVERTY GUIDELINES		REDUCED PRICE MEALS - 185 %						FREE MEALS - 130 %				
	ANNUAL		MONTHLY	TWICE PER MONTH	EVERY TWO WEEKS	WEEKLY	ANNUAL		MONTHLY	TWICE PER MONTH	EVERY TWO WEEKS	WEEKLY	
48 CONTIGUOUS STATES, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, GUAM, AND TERRITORIES													
1	11,490		21,257	1,772	886	818	409		14,937	1,245	623	575	288
2	15,510		28,694	2,392	1,196	1,104	552		20,163	1,681	841	776	388
3	19,530		36,131	3,011	1,506	1,390	695		25,389	2,116	1,058	977	489
4	23,550		43,568	3,631	1,816	1,676	838		30,615	2,552	1,276	1,178	589
5	27,570		51,005	4,251	2,126	1,962	981		35,841	2,987	1,494	1,379	690
6	31,590		58,442	4,871	2,436	2,248	1,124		41,067	3,423	1,712	1,580	790
7	35,610		65,879	5,490	2,745	2,534	1,267		46,293	3,858	1,929	1,781	891
8	39,630		73,316	6,110	3,055	2,820	1,410		51,519	4,294	2,147	1,982	991
For each add'l family member, add	4,020		7,437	620	310	287	144		5,226	436	218	201	101
ALASKA													
1	14,350		26,548	2,213	1,107	1,022	511		18,655	1,555	778	718	359
2	19,380		35,853	2,988	1,494	1,379	690		25,194	2,100	1,050	969	485
3	24,410		45,159	3,764	1,882	1,737	869		31,733	2,645	1,323	1,221	611
4	29,440		54,464	4,539	2,270	2,095	1,048		38,272	3,190	1,595	1,472	736
5	34,470		63,770	5,315	2,658	2,453	1,227		44,811	3,735	1,868	1,724	862
6	39,500		73,075	6,090	3,045	2,811	1,406		51,350	4,280	2,140	1,975	988
7	44,530		82,381	6,866	3,433	3,169	1,585		57,889	4,825	2,413	2,227	1,114
8	49,560		91,686	7,641	3,821	3,527	1,764		64,428	5,369	2,685	2,478	1,239
For each add'l family member, add	5,030		9,306	776	388	358	179		6,539	545	273	252	126
HAWAII													
1	13,230		24,476	2,040	1,020	942	471		17,199	1,434	717	662	331
2	17,850		33,023	2,752	1,376	1,271	636		23,205	1,934	967	893	447
3	22,470		41,570	3,465	1,733	1,599	800		29,211	2,435	1,218	1,124	562
4	27,090		50,117	4,177	2,089	1,928	964		35,217	2,935	1,468	1,355	678
5	31,710		58,664	4,889	2,445	2,257	1,129		41,223	3,436	1,718	1,586	793
6	36,330		67,211	5,601	2,801	2,586	1,293		47,229	3,936	1,968	1,817	909
7	40,950		75,758	6,314	3,157	2,914	1,457		53,235	4,437	2,219	2,048	1,024
8	45,570		84,305	7,026	3,513	3,243	1,622		59,241	4,937	2,469	2,279	1,140
For each add'l family member, add	4,620		8,547	713	357	329	165		6,006	501	251	231	116

AUTHORITY: (42 U.S.C. 1758(b)(1))

Audrey Rowe
Administrator

March 8, 2013._____
Date

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